(d) if the answer to part (c) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The representations received from the Forum contained allegations of favouritism and corruption in the matter of promotion. These representations have been examined by the ITDC management but the allegations have not been proved correct. As the promotions have been made in accordance with the Recruitment, Promotion, and Seniority Rules of the Corporation, the question of holding enquiry does not arise.

Complaints against ITDC chief

952. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the 'Officers Welfare Forum' ITDC wrote to the Minister of Tourism in January, 1990, regarding colossal wasteful expenditure being incurred by the ITDC Chief;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government have taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The letter mainly contained allegations of wasteful expenditure on the conversion of guest rooms in Ashok/Samrat hotels for residences of Executives/ Chief Executive thereby causing loss of revenue to the hotel unit.

(c) Some rooms, which are unlettable to guests due to V.V.I.P. Security have been converted into residential apartments in Samrat Hotel. These apartments have been allotted to Chief Executive/Sr. Hotel Executives as per operational requirements and general practice in the Hotel industry.

Recruitment of sportsmen in the office of Director of Audit, Eastern Railway, Calcutta

953. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an advertisement was published/telecast in All India papers/TV in May, 1989 for recruitment of sportsmen in the office of Director of Audit, Eastern Railway, Calcutta against sports quota;

(b) whether call letters were issued to candidates in November, 1989 for trials conducted from 20th November, 1989 to 22nd November, 1989;

(c) whether any candidate was selected as Champion in the trials;

(d) whether it is a fact that a corrigendum was published in the press subsequently for correction of alleged mistake in the original advertisement;

(e) whether the Management found defects with the main advertisement after the official trail was over;

(f) whether it is also a fact that call letters were issued to some candidates on 20th November, 1989 in violation of all norms;

(g) if the reply to parts (a) to (f) be in the affirmative whether action has been taken against the official concerned for this irregularity after investigation; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(h) whether genuinely selected candidate would be given appointment?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (b) An ad-

vertisement was published in the Employment News/Rozgar Samachar, Delhi, Amrita Bazar Patrika, Northern India Patrika and the Indian Nation through the Directorate of Audia Visual Publicity in May 1989 for recruitment of sportsmen (Badminton/ Chess).

For the game of badminton, out of 21 candidates who had applied, 16 candidates were called on 15-6-1989 for field trials. On the basis of the field trials on 22nd and 23rd June 1989, 3 candidates were called for interview which was to be held on 28-11-1989. The candidates, when they turned up for interview were informed that as the original advertisement was defective in regard to the age limit given therein, the interviews had to be cancelled. A corrigendum was issued to the D.A.V.P. on 1-12-1989 and the corrected advertisement for badminton was published in national newspapers on 25-12-1989.

One applicant was adjudged the best player in the field trials held for badminton on 22/23-6-1980.

Call letters were issued on 2-11-1989 to selected applicants for appearing in the field trials for Chess. No call letters were issued on 20-11-1989. While verifying the original certificates submitted by the candidates, it was noticed that 6 candidates were above the normally permissible age limit of 25 years. Field trials were, therefore, held between 20th and 22nd November 1989 amongst 13 candidates who were within the advertised age limit of 25 years.

One applicant was adjudged as the best player in the field trial for Chess.

It came to notice on 20th November 1989, while the field trails were on in respect of chess, that the age limit of 25 years given in the advertisement issued in May 1989 was incorrect, as per orders relating to the appointment of sports persons in groups 'C' & 'D' posts. A corrigendum to this advertisement, correctly indicating the age relaxation by 5 years in respect of general candidates and by 10 years in respect of SC/ST candidates over and above the maximum age limit of 25 years, was published on 26th November 1989.

As the entire recruitment procedure had been vitiated, the sports quota recruitment for the year 1989 was scrapped and no appointment was made against the advertisement.

The mistake regarding the incorrect age limit having been mentioned in the original advertisement issued for both chess and badminton was noticed on 20th November 1989, i.e. on the same day as the field trials were to commence in respect of chess and after the field trials were over for badminton (in June 1989). D.A.V.P. was requested the same day to publish a corrigendum giving the correct age limit. The corrected advertisement in respect of chess was published on 26th November 1989.

The Director of Audit, Eastern Railway, has since called for the explanation of the concerned official and would take suitable action on receipt of the replies from them. Director of Audit, Eastern Railway has also since been advised to ensure that such mistakes do not recur.

Setting up of an Export Facilitation Committee

954. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up an Export Facilitation Committee recently;

(b) if so, what are the functions and objectives of this committee;

(c) when was the last meeting of the committee held;

(d) what major decisions were taken at the last meeting;